JULY 22, 1775. THE NUMBER 1250.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

With the Freſheſt ADVICES, FOREIGN and DOMESTICK.

IN CIVITATE LIBERA LINGUAM MENTEMQUE LIBERAS ESSE DEBERE. —— SUET. in TIB. S. 28

PRINTED by JOHN DIXON and WM. HUNTER, at the POST OFFICE.

ALL Perſons may be ſupplied with this Paper at 12/6 a Year, and have Advertiſements (of a moderate Length) inſerted for 3/. the firſt Week, and 2/. each Week after.——Printing Work done at this Office in the neateſt Manner, with Care and Expedition.

To Mr. RICHARD BLAND.

SIR,

PUBLIC addreſſes, conſidered as eſſential to fair and candid inquiries, and expreſſed in terms of decency, become leſs diſagreeable in proportion as they are more neceſſary, and generally are received with a ſuitable degree of deference and reſpect: But when, inſtead of eſtabliſhing truth, they are intended to fix upon the perſons to whom they are addreſſed the moſt opprobrious appellations; when, inſtead of modeſt and rational language, they abound with invective and illiberal abuſe, they are not only unpleaſing, but excite that juſt indignation which every man of ſenſibility, when injured, muſt feel. Should a harſh expreſſion, therefore, drop from my pen, the impartial public, I hope, will not conſider it as the effect of inclination, but what the exigency of the caſe requires.

You ſay, "that during your abſence from the colony I had, with much confidence, declared you had ſolicited, by letter, ſome perſon in Adminiſtration for a pecuniary appointment under Government; that, in return for ſuch a favour, you had promiſed to exert yourſelf to carry into execution the miniſterial meaſures againſt the rights and liberties of America; and that I had ſeen a letter to that purpoſe, ſubſcribed with your name." I deny the charge. Had the ſame degree of temper and candour directed your inquiry, and my relation of a converſation which happened in England, you probably, by being better informed, would not have been betrayed into that exceſſive virulence of expreſſion which equally diſgraces your abilities and age. The low arts of ſlander and calumny I abhor, and reſign them to thoſe ignoble beings, who, like yourſelf, ſet a value upon no one's character but their own. Believe me, I have never been ſo great an enemy to virtue as not to behold the character of every one in the moſt ſacred light. I have always conſidered integrity as an eſſential ingredient to complete the happineſs of man, and therefore was well aware of the delicacy with which ſubjects of ſuch a nature ought to be treated.

"A young Clergyman, who is juſt entering into public life, would, you ſuppoſe, be very cautious of flinging out reports, which reflect upon the characters of other men, unleſs he was certain of the truth of them." This argument, viewed in a proper and reaſonable light, might alſo have induced you to put a milder conſtruction upon my conduct, which you have cenſured in terms moſt odious and ſevere. For what could have more ſtrongly indicated an infatuated mind than an attempt, at my firſt entrance into a public office, to cut off all proſpect of future advantage therefrom, by at once declaring myſelf a rebel to virtue, and the happineſs of mankind? This was to act againſt the known rules of prudence. What more certain proof could I have given of baſeneſs and folly, than wantonly to have endeavoured to ſtrip thoſe laurels from another's head, which I was certain could never encircle my own? Beſides, Sir, in ſociety, I believe there are reciprocal duties. If I, as a Clergyman, am bound to obſerve a more circumſpect and uniform conduct than others, as a Clergyman I am ſurely entitled to receive the degree of reſpect which that character has always been thought to deſerve. I cannot but wiſh that you had enlivened your *inſtructive* leſſon by a correſponding example. I am really ſorry that thoſe *thirty years*, wherein "*honours have been bluſhing thick*" upon you, ſhould have been ſo illy employed, that you are now found altogether deſtitute of propriety and good manners. It is eaſy enough to point out the proper line of duty to others; but how difficult it is to purſue it ourſelves you have ſufficiently demonſtrated.

In what light to conſider the laſt paragraph of your letter, I am indeed at a loſs. That a ſtranger to my perſon and character too, you would treat me ſo like the moſt degenerate of mankind, as peremptorily to pronounce, that "I had boldly and induſtriouſly propagated an infamous and invidious falſehood," I cannot believe, unleſs you expected, by the clamours of guilt, to ſtifle the gentle rebukes of conſcience, and, under the appearance of an enraged zeal for your character, to tranſfer upon me, as a liar, the odium which you were likely to incur from being a traitor. Whether this be the caſe, or an habitual practice in ſcurrility and abuſe has rendered you callous to every generous ſentiment, and inſenſible of the diſtinction between things that are decent and thoſe that are opprobrious, I ſhall gladly appear before the tribunal you laſt mention (your own perſon I ſuppoſe is meant) to be informed. With however great care you may endeavour to preſerve inviolate *thoſe honours*, which have accrued to you from being the *firſt repreſentative* of a *county for thirty years paſt*; with however great pleaſure you may reflect on your appointment to repreſent this *country in the Grand Continental Congreſs*; be aſſured, that I ſhall watch over my character not only as a Clergyman, but as one who acts upon the principles of honeſty and truth with a no leſs jealous eye, and that the proper diſcharge of my duty will be attended with reflections equally agreeable as that of your's can be.

Not to make atonement for an inſult, which I have not offered, but to vindicate my character, and to inform the public whence your malicious accuſations have originated, I ſhall relate part of a converſation, which happened the night before my departure from Graveſend, between a Gentleman and myſelf, who, from the beſt information I could get, was a perſon of conſiderable property, and an unblemiſhed character. This Gentleman, in the preſence of three others (one or two of whom are in the country at preſent, and, I doubt not, ready to atteſt what I ſhall ſay) aſked me, what I ſhould think of the matter, if he was to inform me that one of the Delegates for Virginia had applied to Lord North for the office of tax-gatherer of the duties on tea. I, of courſe, expreſſed my aſtoniſhment at ſuch a queſtion. He, however, pledged his word and honour that he had ſeen a petition from one of the Delegates to that purpoſe; that the correſpondent of the Delegate, through whoſe hands it paſſed, had not any intereſt, nor even perſonal acquaintance, with the Miniſter; that, in conſequence thereof, the correſpondent was obliged to get it delivered through the medium of a friend; that the laſt mentioned Gentleman ſhewed it to him, while it was in his poſſeſſion; that the Delegate therein aſſured the Miniſter, it had been in his power to inflame the minds of ſome of the people; that he could compoſe them at will, and only waited an opportunity to diſtinguiſh himſelf on the behalf of Government. This relation naturally excited our curioſity to know the perſon, and conjectures were accordingly made. The names of ſeveral were mentioned, whom he declared to be innocent: When the name of Mr. Bland was mentioned, he ſaid that he did not chooſe to diſcover the perſon at all. Thus was the matter in ſubſtance related to me; and thus have I invariably related it ſince my arrival in Virginia. How far this account correſponds with the repreſentation that you have made, it reſts with the impartial public to determine. To have ſuppreſſed an information, which, at the ſame time that it contained matter of the greateſt importance to the public Weal, bore the moſt evident marks of truth, might have been well deemed a ſanction given by me to ſecret villainy. Any diſguiſed enemy I have always conſidered as dangerous; but when one, to whom the ſupreme direction of the affairs of the ſtate is entruſted, took upon him that character, I thought it my duty, if poſſible, to drag him from his obſcurity, and expoſe him to public view, not only as a dangerous but truly formidable foe. That in this buſineſs, however, I proceeded with the greateſt caution, and did not in one circumſtance exceed the limits which either truth or my information preſcribed to me, I can with *much confidence* affirm. A modeſt application at any time would have induced me to ſtand forth the advocate of juſtice and truth, and declare what I now do; as thereby the innocent might have had an opportunity of clearing themſelves of ſuſpicion: But you, Sir, in an unmanly and ungenerous manner, have extorted it from me by the moſt baſe and falſe accuſations; and, inſtead of leading a young man into the perplexing wilds of controverſy with that moderation becoming your character and age, have, with rancorous malice, hurried me before the public eye under the moſt unfavourable appearances.

I do therefore call upon you, in the moſt ſolemn manner, to deliver up your author, either in a private or public manner, or be aſſured that it ſhall reſt with you to make good the allegations in your letter. I am, Sir,

CAROLINE, *July* 12th, 1775. } Your humble ſervant, SAMUEL SHEILD.

A DECLARATION *by the* REPRESENTATIVES *of the united colonies of* NORTH AMERICA, *now met in* GENERAL CONGRESS *at* PHILADELPHIA, *ſetting forth the cauſes and neceſſity of their taking up Arms.*

IF it was poſſible for men, who exerciſe their reaſon, to believe that the Divine Author of our exiſtence intended a part of the human race to hold an abſolute property in, and an unbounded power over others, marked out by his infinite goodneſs and wiſdom, as the objects of a legal domination, never rightfully reſiſtible, however ſevere and oppreſſive, the inhabitants of theſe colonies might at leaſt require from the Parliament of Great Britain, ſome evidence that this dreadful authority over them has been granted to that body. But a reverence for our great Creator, principles of humanity, and the dictates of common ſenſe, muſt convince all thoſe who reflect upon the ſubject, that government was inſtituted to promote the welfare of mankind, and ought to be adminiſtered for the attainment of that end. The legiſlature of Great Britain, however ſtimulated by an inordinate paſſion for a power not only unjuſtifiable, but which they know to be peculiarly reprobated by the very conſtitution of that kingdom, and deſperate of ſucceſs in any mode of conteſt, where regard ſhould be had to truth, law, or right, have at length, deſerting thoſe, attempted to effect their cruel and impolitic purpoſe of enſlaving theſe colonies by violence, and have thereby rendered it neceſſary for us to cloſe with their laſt appeal from reaſon to arms. Yet, however blinded that Aſſembly may be, by their intemperate rage for unlimited rule, ſo to ſlight juſtice and the opinion of mankind, *we* eſteem ourſelves bound by obligations of reſpect to the reſt of the world, to make known the juſtice of our cauſe.

Our forefathers, inhabitants of the iſland of Great Britain, left their native land, to ſeek on theſe ſhores a reſidence for civil and religious freedom. At the expence of their blood, at the hazard of their fortunes, without the leaſt charge to the country from which they removed, by unceaſing labour and an unconquerable ſpirit, they effected ſettlements in the diſtant and inhoſpitable wilds of America, then filled with numerous and warlike nations of barbarians. Societies or governments, veſted with perfect legiſlatures, were formed under charters from the Crown, and an harmonious intercourſe was eſtabliſhed between the colonies and the kingdom from which they derived their origin. The mutual benefits of this union became in a ſhort time ſo extraordinary, as to excite aſtoniſhment. It is univerſally confeſſed, that the amazing increaſe of the wealth, ſtrength, and navigation of the realm, aroſe from this ſource; and the Miniſter who ſo wiſely and ſucceſsfully directed the meaſures of Great Britain in the late war, publicly declared, that theſe colonies enabled her to triumph over her enemies. Towards the concluſion of that war, it pleaſed our Sovereign to make a change in his counſels. From that fatal moment, the affairs of the Britiſh empire began to fall into confuſion, and gradually ſliding from the ſummit of glorious proſperity to which they had been advanced by the virtues and abilities of one man, are at length diſtracted by the convulſions, that now ſhake it to its deepeſt foundations. The new Miniſtry finding the brave foes of Britain, though frequently defeated, yet ſtill contending, took up the unfortunate idea of granting them a haſty peace, and of then ſubduing her faithful friends.

These devoted colonies were judged to be in ſuch a ſtate, as to preſent victories without bloodſhed, and all the eaſy emolments of ſtatuteable depredation. The uninterrupted tenor of their peaceable and reſpectful behaviour from the beginning of colonization, their dutiful, zealous, and uſeful ſervices during the war, though ſo recently and amply acknowledged in the moſt honorable manner by his Majeſty, by the late King, and by Parliament, could not ſave them from the meditated innovations. Parliament was influenced to adopt the pernicious project, and aſſuming a new power over them, have in the courſe of eleven years given ſuch deciſive ſpecimens of the ſpirit and conſequences attending this power, as to leave no doubt concerning the effects of acquieſcence under it. They have undertaken to give and grant our money without our conſent, though we have ever exerciſed an excluſive right to diſpoſe of our own property; ſtatutes have been paſſed for extending the juriſdiction of courts of Admiralty and Vice Admiralty beyond their ancient limits; for depriving us of the accuſtomed and ineſtimable privilege of trial by jury in caſes affecting both life and property; for ſuſpending the legiſlature of one of the colonies; for interdicting all commerce of another; and for altering fundamentally the form of government eſtabliſhed by charter, and ſecured by acts of its own legiſlature ſolemnly confirmed by the Crown; for exempting the "murderers" of coloniſts from legal trial, and in effect, from puniſhment; for erecting in a neighbouring province, acquired by the joint arms of Great Britain and America, a deſpotiſm dangerous to our very exiſtence; and for quartering ſoldiers upon the coloniſts in time of profound peace. It has alſo been reſolved in Parliament, that coloniſts charged with committing certain offences, ſhall be tranſported to England to be tried.

But why ſhould we enumerate our injuries in detail? By one ſtatute it is declared, that Parliament can "of right make laws to bind US IN ALL CASES WHATSOEVER." What is to defend us againſt ſo enormous, ſo unlimited a power? Not a ſingle man of thoſe who aſſume it, is choſen by us; or is ſubject to our controul or influence: But on the contrary, they are all of them exempt from the operation of ſuch laws, and an American revenue, if not diverted from the oſtenſible purpoſes for which it is raiſed, would actually lighten their own burthens in proportion as they increaſe ours. We ſaw the miſery to which ſuch deſpotiſm would reduce us. We for ten years inceſſantly and ineffectually beſieged the Throne as ſupplicants; we reaſoned, we remonſtrated, with Parliament in the moſt mild and decent language. But Adminiſtration ſenſible that we ſhould regard theſe oppreſſive meaſures as freemen ought to do, ſent over fleets and armies to enforce them. The indignation of the Americans was rouſed it is true; but it was the indignation of a virtuous, loyal and affectionate people. A Congreſs of Delegates from the united colonies was aſſembled at Philadelphia, on the fifth day of laſt September. We reſolved again to offer an humble and dutiful petition to the King, and alſo addreſſed our fellow ſubjects of Great Britain. We have purſued every temperate, every reſpectful meaſure, we have even proceeded to break off our commercial intercourſe with our fellow ſubjects, as the laſt peaceable admonition, that our attachment to no nation upon earth ſhould ſupplant our attachment to liberty. This, we flattered ourſelves, was the ultimate ſtep of the controverſy: But ſubſequent events have ſhewn, how vain was this hope of finding moderation in our enemies.

Several threatening expreſſions againſt the colonies were inſerted in his Majeſty's ſpeech; our petition, though we were told it was a decent one, that his Majeſty had been pleaſed to receive it graciouſly, and to promiſe laying it before his Parliament, was huddled into both Houſes amongſt a bundle of American papers, and there neglected. The Lords and Commons in their addreſs, in the month of February, ſaid, that "a rebellion at that time actually exiſted within the province of Maſſachuſetts Bay, and that thoſe concerned in it had been countenanced and encouraged by unlawful combinations and engagements, entered into by his Majeſty's ſubjects in ſeveral of the other colonies; and therefore they beſought his Majeſty, that he would take the moſt effectual meaſures to enforce due obedience to the laws and authority of the ſupreme legiſlature." Soon after the commercial intercourſe of whole colonies, with foreign countries and with each other, was cut off by an act of Parliament; by another, ſeveral of them were entirely prohibited from the fiſheries in the ſeas near their coaſts, on which they always depended for their ſuſtenance; and a large reinforcement of ſhips and troops were immediately ſent over to General Gage.

Fruitleſs were all the entreaties, arguments, and eloquence of an illuſtrious band of the moſt diſtinguiſhed Peers and Commoners, who nobly and ſtrenuouſly aſſerted the juſtice of our cauſe, to ſtay or even to mitigate the heedleſs fury with which theſe accumulated and unexampled outrages were hurried on. Equally fruitleſs was the interference of the city of London, of Briſtol, and many other reſpectable towns in our favour. Parliament adopted an inſidious manœuvre calculated to divide us, to eſtabliſh a perpetual auction of taxations where colony ſhould bid againſt colony, all of them uninformed what ranſom would redeem their lives, and thus to extort from us at the point of the bayonet the unknown ſums that ſhould be ſufficient to gratify, if poſſible, to gratify miniſterial rapacity, with the miſerable indulgence left to us of raiſing in our own mode the preſcribed tribute. What terms more rigid and humiliating could have been dictated by remorſeleſs victors to conquered enemies? In our circumſtances to accept them would be to deſerve them.

Soon after the intelligence of theſe proceedings arrived on this continent, General Gage, who, in the courſe of the laſt year, had taken poſſeſſion of the town of Boſton in the province of Maſſachuſetts Bay, and ſtill occupied it as a garriſon, on the 19th day of April, ſent out from that place a large detachment of his army, who made an unprovoked aſſault on the inhabitants of the ſaid province, at the town of Lexington, as appears by the affidavits of a great number of perſons, ſome of whom were officers as

ſoldiers of that detachment, murdered eight of the inhabitants, and wounded many others. From thence the troops proceeded in warlike array to the town of Concord, where they ſet upon another party of the inhabitants of the ſame province, killing ſeveral and wounding more, until compelled to retreat by the country people ſuddenly aſſembled to repel this cruel aggreſſion. Hoſtilities thus commenced by the Britiſh troops, have been ſince proſecuted by them without regard to faith or reputation. The inhabitants of Boſton being confined within that town by the General their Governor, and having, in order to procure their diſmiſſion, entered into a treaty with him, it was ſtipulated that the ſaid inhabitants having depoſited their arms with their own magiſtrates, ſhould have liberty to depart, taking with them their other effects. They accordingly delivered up their arms, but in open violation of honour, in defiance of the obligation of treaties, which even ſavage nations eſteemed ſacred, the Governor ordered the arms depoſited as aforeſaid, that they might be preſerved for their owners, to be ſeized by a body of ſoldiers; detained the greateſt part of the inhabitants in the town, and compelled the few who were permitted to retire, to leave their moſt valuable effects behind.

By this perfidy, wifes are ſeparated from their huſbands, children from their parents, the aged and the ſick from their relations and friends, who wiſh to attend and comfort them; and thoſe who have been uſed to live in plenty, and even elegance, are reduced to deplorable diſtreſs.

The General further emulating his miniſterial maſters, by a proclamation bearing date on the 12th day of June, after venting the groſſeſt falſehoods and calumnies againſt the good people of theſe colonies, proceeds to "declare them all either by name or "deſcription to be rebels and traitors, to ſuperſede the courſe of the "common law, and inſtead thereof to publiſh and order the uſe "and exerciſe of the law martial." His troops have butchered our countrymen; have wantonly burnt Charleſtown, beſides a conſiderable number of houſes in other places; our ſhips and veſſels are ſeized; the neceſſary ſupplies of proviſions are intercepted, and he is exerting his utmoſt power to ſpread deſtruction and devaſtation around him.

We have received certain intelligence, that General Carleton, the Governor of Canada, is inſtigating the people of that province and the Indians to fall upon us; and we have but too much reaſon to apprehend, that ſchemes have been formed to excite domeſtic enemies againſt us. In brief, a part of theſe colonies now feels, and all of them are ſure of feeling, as far as the vengeance of Adminiſtration can inflict them, the complicated calamities of fire, ſword, and famine. We are reduced to the alternative of chooſing an unconditional ſubmiſſion to the tyranny of irritated Miniſters, or reſiſtance by force. The latter is our choice. We have counted the coſt of this conteſt, and find nothing ſo dreadful as voluntary ſlavery. Honour, juſtice, and humanity, forbid us tamely to ſurrender that freedom which we received from our gallant anceſtors, and which our innocent poſterity have a right to receive from us. We cannot endure the infamy and guilt of reſigning ſucceeding generations to that wretchedneſs which inevitably awaits them, if we baſely entail hereditary bondage upon them.

Our cauſe is juſt. Our union is perfect. Our internal reſources are great, and if neceſſary, foreign aſſiſtance is undoubtedly attainable. We gratefully acknowledge, as ſignal inſtances of the Divine favour towards us, that his Providence would not permit us to be called into this ſevere controverſy until we were grown up to our preſent ſtrength, had been previouſly exerciſed in warlike operations, and poſſeſſed of the means of defending ourſelves. With hearts fortified with theſe animating reflections, we moſt ſolemnly, before GOD and the world declare, that, exerting the utmoſt energy of thoſe powers, which our beneficent Creator hath graciouſly beſtowed upon us, the arms we have been compelled by our enemies to aſſume, we will, in defiance of every hazard, with unabating firmneſs and perſeverance, employ for the preſervation of our liberties, being with one mind reſolved to die freemen rather than to live ſlaves.

Leſt this declaration ſhould diſquiet the minds of our friends and fellow ſubjects in any part of the empire, we aſſure them, that we mean not to diſſolve that union which has ſo long and ſo happily ſubſiſted between us, and which we ſincerely wiſh to ſee reſtored. Neceſſity has not yet driven us into that deſperate meaſure, or induced us to excite any other nation to war againſt them. We have not raiſed armies with ambitious deſigns of ſeparating from Great Britain, and eſtabliſhing independent ſtates. We fight not for glory or for conqueſt. We exhibit to mankind the remarkable ſpectacle of a people attacked by unprovoked enemies, without any imputation, or even ſuſpicion of offence. They boaſt of their privileges and civilization, and yet proffer no milder conditions than ſervitude or death.

In our own native land, in defence of the freedom that is our birthright, and which we ever enjoyed till the late violation of it; for the protection of our property, acquired ſolely by the honeſt induſtry of our forefathers and ourſelves, againſt violence actually offered, we have taken up arms. We ſhall lay them down when hoſtilities ſhall ceaſe on the part of the aggreſſors, and all danger of their being renewed ſhall be removed, and not before.

With an humble confidence in the mercies of the ſupreme and impartial Judge and Ruler of the univerſe, we moſt devoutly implore his divine goodneſs to conduct us happily through this great conflict, to diſpoſe our adverſaries to reconciliation on reaſonable terms, and thereby to relieve the empire from the calamities of civil war.

By order of Congreſs.

JOHN HANCOCK, Preſident.

Atteſted.

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

PHILADELPHIA, *July* 6, 1775.

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1775.

Reſolved, that the two acts paſſed in the firſt ſeſſion of the preſent Parliament, the one entitled, "An act to reſtrain the trade and commerce of the province of Maſſachuſetts Bay and New Hampſhire, and colonies of Connecticut and Rhode Iſland and Providence plantations in North America, to Great Britain, Ireland, and the Britiſh iſlands in the Weſt Indies; and to prohibit ſuch provinces and colonies from carrying on any fiſhery on the banks of Newfoundland, or other places therein mentioned, under certain conditions and limitations;" the other entitled, "An act to reſtrain the trade and commerce of the colonies of New Jerſey, Pennſylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina, to Great Britain, Ireland, and the Britiſh iſlands in the Weſt Indies, under certain conditions and limitations," are unconſtitutional, oppreſſive, and cruel, and that the commercial oppoſition of theſe colonies, to certain acts enumerated in the aſſociation of the laſt Congreſs, ought to be made againſt theſe until they are repealed.

A true copy from the minutes

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'ry.

The TWELVE UNITED COLONIES, *by their* DELEGATES *in* CONGRESS,

TO THE INHABITANTS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Friends, Countrymen, and Brethren,

BY theſe, and by every other appellation that may deſignate the ties, which bind us to each other, we entreat your ſerious attention to this our ſecond attempt, to prevent their diſſolution. Remembrance of former friendſhips, pride in the glorious atchievements of our common anceſtors, and affection for the heirs of their virtues, have hitherto preſerved our mutual connection; but when that friendſhip is violated by the groſſeſt injuries, when the pride of anceſtry becomes our reproach, and we are no otherwiſe allied than as tyrants and ſlaves; when reduced to the melancholy alternative of renouncing your favour, or our freedom, can we heſitate about the choice? Let the ſpirit of Britons determine.

In a former addreſs we aſſerted our rights, and ſtated the injuries we had then received. We hoped that the mention of our wrongs would have rouſed that honeſt indignation, which has ſlept too long for your honour, or the welfare of the empire. But we have not been permitted to entertain this pleaſing expectation; every day brought an accumulation of injuries, and the invention of the Miniſtry has been conſtantly exerciſed in adding to the calamities of your American brethren.

After the moſt valuable right of legiſlation was infringed, when the powers aſſumed by your Parliament, in which we are not repreſented, and from our local and other circumſtances cannot properly be repreſented, rendered our property precarious; after being denied that mode of trial to which we have long been indebted for the ſafety of our perſons, and the preſervation of our liberties; after being in many inſtances diveſted of thoſe laws which were tranſmitted to us by our common anceſtors, and ſubjected to an arbitrary code, compiled under the auſpices of Roman tyrants; after annulling thoſe charters which encouraged our predeceſſors to brave death and danger in every ſhape, on unknown ſeas, in deſarts unexplored, amidſt barbarous and inhoſpitable nations; when, without the form of trial, without a public accuſation, whole colonies were condemned, their trade deſtroyed, their inhabitants impoveriſhed; when ſoldiers were encouraged to embrue their hands in the blood of Americans, by offers of impunity; when new modes of trial were inſtituted for the ruin of the accuſed, where the charge carried with it the horrors of conviction; when a deſpotic government was eſtabliſhed in a neighbouring province, and its limits extended to every of our frontiers, we little imagined that any thing could be added to this black catalogue of unprovoked injuries; but we have unhappily been deceived; and the late meaſures of the Britiſh Miniſtry fully convince us, that their object is the reduction of theſe colonies to ſlavery and ruin.

To confirm this aſſertion, let us recall your attention to the affairs of America, ſince our laſt addreſs; let us combat the calumnies of our enemies, and let us warm you of the dangers that threaten you in our deſtruction. Many of your fellow ſubjects, whoſe ſituation deprived them of other ſupport, drew their maintenance from the ſea; but the deprivation of our liberty being inſufficient to ſatisfy the reſentment of our enemies, the horrors of famine were ſuperadded, and a Britiſh Parliament, who, in better times, were the protectors of innocence, and the patrons of humanity, have, without diſtinction of age or ſex, robbed thouſands of the food which they were accuſtomed to draw from that inexhauſtible ſource placed in their neighbourhood by the benevolent Creator.

Another act of your legiſlature ſhuts our ports, and prohibits our trade with any but thoſe States from whom the great law of ſelf-preſervation renders it abſolutely neceſſary we ſhould at preſent withhold our commerce. But this act (whatever may have been its deſign) we conſider rather as injurious to your opulence than our intereſt. All our commerce terminates with you, and the wealth we procure from other nations is ſoon exchanged for your ſuperfluities. Our remittances muſt then ceaſe with our trade, and our refinements with our affluence. We truſt, however, that laws which deprive us of every bleſſing, but a ſoil that teems with the neceſſaries of life, and that liberty which renders the enjoyment of them ſecure, will not relax our vigour in their defence.

We might here obſerve on the cruelty and inconſiſtency of thoſe, who, while they publicly brand us with reproachful and unworthy epithets, endeavour to deprive us of the means of defence by their interpoſition with foreign powers, and to deliver us to the lawleſs ravages of a mercileſs ſoldiery. But happily we are not without reſources; and though the timid and humiliating applications of a Britiſh Miniſtry ſhould prevail with foreign nations, yet induſtry, prompted by neceſſity, will not leave us without the neceſſary ſupplies.

We could wiſh to go no further, and not to wound the ear of humanity, leave untold thoſe rigorous acts of oppreſſion which are daily exerciſed in the town of Boſton; did we not hope, that by diſclaiming their deeds, and puniſhing the perpetrators, you would ſhortly vindicate the honour of the Britiſh name, and reeſtabliſh the violated laws of juſtice.

That once populous, flouriſhing, and commercial town is now garriſoned by an army ſent, not to protect, but to enſlave its inhabitants. The civil government is overturned, and a military deſpotiſm erected upon its ruins. Without law, without right, powers are aſſumed unknown to the conſtitution. Private property is unjuſtly invaded. The inhabitants daily ſubjected to the licentiouſneſs of the ſoldiery, are forbid to remove in defiance of their natural rights, in violation of the moſt ſolemn compacts; or if, after long and weariſome ſolicitation, a paſs is procured, their effects are detained, and even thoſe who are moſt favoured have no alternative but poverty or ſlavery. The diſtreſs of many thouſand people, wantonly deprived of the neceſſaries of life, is a ſubject on which we would not wiſh to enlarge.

Yet we cannot but obſerve, that a Britiſh fleet (unjuſtified even by acts of your legiſlature) are daily employed in ruining our commerce, ſeizing our ſhips, and depriving whole communities of their daily bread. Nor will a regard for your honour permit us to be ſilent, while Britiſh troops ſully your glory by actions which the moſt inveterate enmity will not palliate among civilized nations, the wanton and unneceſſary deſtruction of Charleſtown, a large antient, and once populous town, juſt before deſerted by its inhabitants, who had fled to avoid the fury of your ſoldiery.

If you ſtill retain thoſe ſentiments of compaſſion by which Britons have ever been diſtinguiſhed, if the humanity which tempered the valour of our common anceſtors has not degenerated into cruelty, you will lament the miſeries of their deſcendants.

To what are we to attribute this treatment? If to any ſecret principle of the conſtitution, let it be mentioned; let us learn that the government we have long revered is not without its defects, and that while it gives freedom to a part, it neceſſarily enſlaves the remainder of the empire. If ſuch a principle exiſts, why for ages has it ceaſed to operate? Why at this time is it called into action? Can no reaſon be aſſigned for this conduct? Or muſt it be reſolved into the wanton exerciſe of arbitrary power? And ſhall the deſcendants of Britons tamely ſubmit to this? No, Sirs! we never will; while we revere the memory of our gallant and virtuous anceſtors, we never can ſurrender thoſe glorious privileges for which they fought, bled, and conquered. Admit that your fleets could deſtroy our towns, and ravage our ſea coaſts; theſe are inconſiderable objects, things of no moment, to men whoſe boſoms glow with the ardour of liberty: We can retire beyond the reach of your navy, and without any ſenſible diminution of the luxuries of life, enjoy a luxury which from that period you will want—THE LUXURY OF BEING FREE.

We know the force of your arms, and was it called forth in the cauſe of juſtice and your country, we might dread the exertion; but will Britons fight under the banners of tyranny? Will they counteract the labours, and diſgrace the victories, of their anceſtors? Will they forge chains for their poſterity? If they deſcend to this unworthy taſk, will their ſwords retain their edge, their arms their accuſtomed vigour? Britons can never become the inſtruments of oppreſſion, till they loſe the ſpirit of freedom, by which alone they are invincible.

Our enemies charge us with ſedition; in what does it conſiſt? In our refuſal to ſubmit to unwarrantable acts of injuſtice and cruelty! If ſo, ſhew us a period in your hiſtory in which you have not been equally ſeditious?

We are accuſed of aiming at independence; but how is this accuſation ſupported? By the allegations of your Miniſters, not by our actions. Abuſed, inſulted, and contemned, what ſteps have we purſued to obtain redreſs? We have carried our dutiful petitions to the Throne. We have applied to your juſtice for relief. We have retrenched our luxury, and withheld our trade.

The advantages of our commerce were deſigned as a compenſation for your protection: When you ceaſed to protect, for what were we to compenſate?

What has been the ſucceſs of our endeavours? The clemency of our Sovereign is unhappily diverted; our petitions are treated with indignity; our prayers anſwered by inſults; our application to you remains unnoticed, and leaves us the melancholy apprehenſion of your wanting either the will or the powers to aſſiſt us.

Even under theſe circumſtances, what meaſures have we taken that betray a deſire of independence? Have we called in the aid of thoſe foreign powers who are the rivals of your grandeur? When your troops were few and defenceleſs, did we take advantage of their diſtreſs, and expel them our towns? Or have we permitted them to fortify, to receive new aid, and to acquire additional ſtrength.

Let not your enemies and ours perſuade you, that in this we were influenced by fear or any other unworthy motive. The lives of Britons are ſtill dear to us; they are the children of our parents; an uninterrupted intercourſe of mutual benefits had knit the bonds of friendſhip. When hoſtilities were commenced, when on a late occaſion we were wantonly attacked by your troops, though we repelled their aſſaults, and returned them blows, yet we lamented the wounds they obliged us to give; nor have we yet learned to rejoice at a victory over Engliſhmen.

As we wiſh not to colour our actions, or diſguiſe our thoughts, we ſhall, in the ſimple language of truth, avow the meaſures we have purſued, the motives upon which we have acted, and our future deſigns.

When our late petition to the Throne produced no other effect than freſh injuries, and votes of your legiſlature, calculated to juſtify every ſeverity; when your fleets, and your armies, were prepared to wreſt from us our property, to rob us of our liberties or our lives; when the hoſtile attempts of General Gage evinced his deſigns, we levied armies for our ſecurity and defence; when the powers veſted in the Governor of Canada gave us reaſon to apprehend danger from that quarter, and we had frequent intimations that a cruel and ſavage enemy was to be let looſe upon the defenceleſs inhabitants of our frontiers; we took ſuch meaſures as prudence dictated, as neceſſity will juſtify: We poſſeſſed ourſelves of Crownpoint and Ticonderoga. Yet, give us leave moſt ſolemnly to aſſure you, that we have not yet loſt ſight of the object we have ever had in view,—a reconciliation with you on conſtitutional principles, and a reſtoration of that friendly intercourſe, which, to the advantage of both, we, till lately, maintained.

The inhabitants of this country apply themſelves chiefly to agriculture and commerce. As their faſhions and manners are ſimilar to yours, your markets muſt afford them the conveniencies and luxuries for which they exchange the produce of their labours. The wealth of this extended continent centers with you, and our trade is ſo regulated as to be ſubſervient only to your intereſt. You are too reaſonable to expect that by taxes (in addition to this) we ſhould contribute to your expence, to believe, after diverting the fountain, that the ſtreams can flow with unabated force.

It has been ſaid that we refuſe to ſubmit to the reſtrictions on our commerce: From whence is this inference drawn? Not from our words, we having repeatedly declared the contrary; and we again profeſs our ſubmiſſion to the ſeveral acts of trade and navigation paſſed before the year 1763, truſting, nevertheleſs, in the equity and juſtice of Parliament, that ſuch of them as, upon cool and impartial conſideration, ſhall appear to have impoſed unneceſſary or grievous reſtrictions, will, at ſome happier period, be repealed or altered. And we cheerfully conſent to the operation of ſuch acts of the Britiſh Parliament as ſhall be reſtrained to the regulation of our external commerce for the purpoſe of ſecuring the commercial advantages of the whole empire to the mother country, and the commercial benefits of its reſpective members, excluding every idea of taxation, internal or external, for raiſing a revenue on the ſubjects in America without their conſent.

It is alleged that we contribute nothing to the common defence: To this we anſwer, that the advantages which Great Britain receives from the monopoly of our trade far exceeds our proportion of the expence neceſſary for that purpoſe. But, ſhould theſe advantages be inadequate thereto, let the reſtrictions on our trade be removed, and we will cheerfully contribute ſuch proportion when conſtitutionally required.

It is a fundamental principle of the Britiſh conſtitution, that every man ſhould have at leaſt a repreſentative ſhare in the formation of thoſe laws by which he is bound. Were it otherwiſe, the regulation of our internal police by a Britiſh Parliament, who are, and ever will be, unacquainted with our local circumſtances, muſt be always inconvenient, and frequently oppreſſive, working our wrong, without yielding any poſſible advantage to you.

A plan of accommodation (as it has been abſurdly called) has been propoſed by your Miniſters to our reſpective Aſſemblies. Were this propoſal free from every other objection but that which ariſes from the time of the offer, it would not be unexceptionable. Can men deliberate with the bayonet at their breaſt? Can they treat with freedom while their towns are ſacked, when daily inſtances of injuſtice and oppreſſion diſturb the ſlower operations of reaſon?

If this propoſal is really ſuch as you ſhould offer, and we accept, why was it delayed till the nation was put to uſeleſs expence, and we were reduced to our preſent melancholy ſituation? If it holds forth nothing, why was it propoſed, unleſs indeed to deceive you into a belief that we were unwilling to liſten to any terms of accommodation: But what is ſubmitted to our conſideration? We contend for the diſpoſal of our property; we are told that our demand is unreaſonable, that our Aſſemblies may indeed collect our money, but that they muſt at the ſame time offer, not what your exigencies, or ours, may require, but ſo much as ſhall be deemed ſufficient to ſatisfy the deſires of a Miniſter, and enable him to provide for favourites and dependents. A recurrence to your own treaſury will convince you how little of the money already extorted from us has been applied to the relief of your burthens. To ſuppoſe that we would thus graſp the ſhadow, and give up the ſubſtance, is adding inſult to injuries.

We have, nevertheleſs, again preſented an humble and dutiful petition to our Sovereign; and, to remove every imputation of obſtinacy, have requeſted his Majeſty to direct ſome mode by which the united applications of his faithful coloniſts may be improved into a happy and permanent reconciliation. We are willing to treat on ſuch terms as can alone render an accommodation laſting, and we flatter ourſelves that our pacific endeavours will be attended with a removal of the troops, a repeal of thoſe laws of the operation of which we complain on the one part, and a diſſolution of our army and commercial aſſociations on the other.

Yet, conclude not from this that we propoſe to ſurrender our property into the hands of your Miniſtry, or veſt your Parliament with a power which may terminate in our deſtruction: The great bulwarks of our conſtitution we have deſired to maintain by every temperate, by every peaceable means; but your Miniſters (equal foes to Britiſh and American freedom) have added to their former oppreſſions an attempt to reduce us by the ſword to a baſe and abject ſubmiſſion. On the ſword, therefore, we are compelled to rely for protection. Should victory declare in your favour, yet men trained to arms from their infancy, and animated by the love of liberty, will afford neither a cheap or eaſy conqueſt. Of this at leaſt we are aſſured, that our ſtruggle will be glorious, our ſucceſs certain, ſince even in death we ſhall find that freedom which in life you forbid us to enjoy.

Let us now aſk what advantages are to attend our reduction? The trade of a ruined and deſolate country is always inconſiderable, its revenue trifling; the expence of ſubjecting, and retaining it in ſubjection, certain and inevitable. What then remains but the gratifications of an ill judged pride, or the hope of rendering us ſubſervient to deſigns on your liberty?

Soldiers, who have sheathed their swords in the bowels of their American brethren, will not draw them with more reluctance against you. When too late, you may lament the loss of that freedom which we exhort you, while still in your power, to preserve.

On the other hand, should you prove unsuccessful; should that connection, which we most ardently wish to maintain, be dissolved; should your Ministers exhaust your measures, waste the blood of your countrymen in vain attempts on our liberty; do they not deliver you, weak and defenceless, to your natural enemies?

Since then your *liberty* must be the price of your victories, your ruin of your defeat, what blind fatality can urge you to a pursuit destructive of all that Britons hold dear?

If you have no regard to the connection that has for ages subsisted between us; if you have forgot the wounds we received fighting by your side, for the extension of the empire; if our commerce is an object below your consideration; if justice and humanity have lost their influence on your hearts, still motives are not wanting, to excite your indignation at the measures now pursued; your wealth your honour, your liberty, are at stake.

Notwithstanding the distress to which we are reduced, we sometimes forget our own afflictions to anticipate and sympathize in yours. We grieve that rash and inconsiderate councils should precipitate the destruction of an empire which has been the envy and admiration of ages; and call God to witness! that we would part with our property, endanger our lives, and sacrifice every thing but liberty, to redeem you from ruin.

A cloud hangs over your heads and ours; ere this reaches you, it may probably have burst upon us: Let us then (before the remembrance of former kindness is obliterated) once more repeat those appellations which are ever grateful in our ears. Let us entreat Heaven to avert our ruin, and the destruction that threatens our friends, brethren, and countrymen, on the other side of the Atlantic.

By order of the Congress.

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

Attested by CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'ry.

PHILADELPHIA, *July* 8, 1775.

RULES *and* ARTICLES *for the better government of the* TROOPS *raised, or to be raised, and kept in pay by and at the joint expence of the twelve united* ENGLISH *colonies in* NORTH AMERICA.

In GENERAL CONGRESS of the united colonies, held at PHILADELPHIA, on the 10th day of May, 1775.

WHEREAS his Majesty's most faithful subjects in these colonies are reduced to a dangerous and critical situation, by the attempts of the British Ministry to carry into execution, by force of arms, several unconstitutional and oppressive acts of the British Parliament for laying taxes in America, to enforce the collection of these taxes, and for altering and changing the constitution and internal police of some of these colonies, in violation of the natural and true rights of the colonies.

And whereas hostilities have been actually commenced in the Massachusetts Bay, by the British troops, under the command of General Gage, and the lives of a number of the inhabitants of that colony destroyed: The town of Boston not only having been long occupied as a garrisoned town in an enemies country, but the inhabitants thereof treated with a severity and cruelty not to be justified, even towards declared enemies. And whereas large reinforcements have been ordered, and are soon expected for the declared purpose of compelling these colonies to submit to the operation of the said acts, which hath rendered it necessary, and an indispensable duty, for the express purpose of securing and defending these colonies, and preserving them in safety against all attempts to carry the said acts into execution: That an armed force be raised sufficient to defeat such hostile designs, and preserve and defend the lives, liberties, and immunities of the colonists; for the due regulating and well ordering of which, resolved, that the following RULES *and* ORDERS *be attended to, and observed by such forces as are or may hereafter be raised for the purpose aforesaid.*

ARTICLE I. That every officer who shall be retained, and every soldier who shall serve in the continental army, shall, at the time of his acceptance of his commission or enlistment, subscribe these rules and regulations. And that the officers and soldiers, already of that army, shall also, as soon as may be, subscribe the same; from the time of which subscription every officer and soldier shall be bound by those regulations. But if any of the officers or soldiers, now of the said army, do not subscribe these rules and regulations, then they may be retained in the said army, subject to the rules and regulations under which they entered into the service, or be discharged from the service, at the option of the commander in chief.

II. It is earnestly recommended to all officers and soldiers diligently to attend divine service; and all officers and soldiers who shall behave indecently or irreverently at any place of divine worship, shall, if commissioned officers, be brought before a court martial, there to be publicly and severely reprimanded by the President; if non-commissioned officers or soldiers, every person so offending, shall, for his first offence, forfeit one sixth of a dollar, to be deducted out of his next pay; for the second offence, he shall not only forfeit a like sum, but be confined for twenty four hours; and for every like offence, shall suffer and pay in like manner; which money so forfeited shall be applied to the use of the sick soldiers of the troop or company to which the offender belongs.

III. Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall use any profane oath or execration, shall incur the penalties expressed in the first article; and if a commissioned officer be thus guilty of profane cursing or swearing, he shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence the sum of four shillings, lawful money.

IV. Any officer or soldier, who shall behave himself with contempt or disrespect towards the General or Generals, or Commander in Chief of the Continental Forces, or shall speak false words, tending to his or their hurt, or dishonour, shall be punished, according to the nature of his offence, by the judgment of a general court martial.

V. Any officer or soldier who shall begin, excite, cause, or join in any mutiny or sedition, in the regiment, troop, or company to which he belongs, or in any other regiment, troop, or company of the Continental Forces, either by land or sea, or in any party, post, detachment, or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer such punishment as by a general court martial shall be ordered.

VI. Any officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, who being present at any mutiny, or sedition, does not use his utmost endeavours to suppress the same, or coming to the knowledge of any mutiny, or intended mutiny, does not, without delay, give information thereof to the commanding officer, shall be punished by order of a general court martial according to the nature of his offence.

VII. Any officer or soldier who shall strike his superior officer, or draw or offer to draw, or shall lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, on any pretence whatsoever, or shall disobey any lawful commands of his superior officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence, be ordered by the sentence of a general court martial.

VIII. Any non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall desert, or without leave of his commanding officer, absent himself from the troop or company to which he belongs, or from any detachment of the same, shall, upon being convicted thereof, be punished according to the nature of his offence, at the discretion of a general court martial.

[*To be continued.*]

HIS MAJESTY's

MOST GRACIOUS SPEECH

To both HOUSES of PARLIAMENT, on *Friday* the 26th of MAY, 1775.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT, in justice to you, forbear to express my entire satisfaction in your conduct during the course of this important session. You have maintained, with a firm and steady resolution, the rights of my Crown, and the authority of Parliament, which I shall ever consider as inseparable. You have protected and promoted the commercial interests of my kingdoms, and you have at the same time given convincing proofs of your readiness (as far as the constitution will allow you) to gratify the wishes, and remove the apprehensions, of my subjects in America; and I am persuaded that the most salutary effects must, in the end, result from measures formed and conducted on such principles.

The late mark of your affectionate attachment to me, and to the Queen, and the zeal and unanimity which accompanied it, demand my particular thanks.

I have the satisfaction to acquaint you, that as well from the general dispositions of other powers, as from the solemn assurances which I have received, I have great reason to expect the continuance of peace. Nothing on my part, consistent with the maintenance of the honour and interest of my kingdoms, shall be wanting to secure the public tranquillity.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

IT gives me much concern that the unhappy disturbances in some of my colonies have obliged me to propose to you an augmentation of my army, and have prevented me from completing the intended reduction of the establishment of my naval forces. I cannot sufficiently thank you for the cheerfulness and public spirit with which you have granted the supplies for the several services of the current year.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I HAVE nothing to desire of you but to use your best endeavours to preserve and to cultivate, in your several counties, the same regard for public order, and the same discernment of their true interests, which have in these times distinguished the character of my faithful and beloved people; and the continuance of which cannot fail to render them happy at home, and respected abroad."

Then the Lord Chamberlain, by his Majesty's command, said:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's Royal will and pleasure that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday the 27th day of July next, to be then here held; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the 27th day of July next.

[For *London* news, &c. see the last page.]

CAMBRIDGE, *June* 29.

SINCE the battle of the 17th inst. a considerable body of the army have been employed in fortifying Prospect Hill, Winter Hill, and other eminences near Charlestown. The former, which is a very fine situation, and in a full view of the enemy on Bunker's Hill, is said to be now almost impregnable. The lines on Winter Hill are carrying on with great vigour, and it is proposed, we are informed, to extend them to those on Prospect Hill. Similar works are carrying on at Roxbury: Breast works, within about half a mile of the enemies lines have been thrown up across the main street in that town. On a very high hill, a little distance from the meeting-house, is erecting a strong fortification within cannon shot of Boston. The above works have been constructed to prevent any excursions the enemy might attempt to make into the country, previous to nearer approaches that may be made for rescuing that unfortunate capital out of the hands of its present unjust, tyrannical invaders.

WATERTOWN, *June* 26.

In PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, Watertown, *June* 21, 1775.

WHEREAS a number of our inveterate enemies have taken shelter under the protection of General Gage and his troops, and have left a considerable interest, whereby it becomes necessary that some provision should be made for the disposal of the same: Therefore,

Resolved, that the Selectmen and the Committees of Correspondence of the several towns and districts of this colony be directed to take under their care the effects and estates of the several persons who have fled for protection to Boston, or elsewhere; and to improve the same to the best advantage, and render a true account of the profits arising therefrom, to this Congress, or some future house of representatives of this colony, they being allowed a reasonable consideration for their trouble.

JAMES WARREN, President.

A true copy from the minutes.

Attest. SAMUEL FREEMAN, Sec'ry.

Writs are issued (agreeable to the recommendation of the Continental Congress) for calling a General Assembly, to convene at this town upon Wednesday the 19th day of July next.

July 3. Capt. Tileston arrived at Newbury last Wednesday, in 21 days from Newfoundland, and informs us, that a greater number of vessels had arrived from Europe for the fishery than usual, as the colonies were not permitted to fish on the Banks there; but finding they could not procure flour, &c. several vessels returned home before Capt. Tileston sailed, and many more were soon to follow (their voyages being broken up) in order, it is presumed, to settle the *fare* with my *Lord North*! ! !

There has been an exchange of cannon almost every day this week past, between the enemy at Boston Neck and our troops at Roxbury; and yesterday morning about 4 o'clock a very heavy cannonade began, and continued till after 8; but we have not heard of any particulars, saving that the enemy fired two houses near the burying ground in Roxbury, by bombs, and that our forces have demolished the house lately occupied by Mr. Brown, on Boston Neck.

PROVIDENCE, *July* 1.

BY a return made a few days since at the head quarters of the American army, it appears that only 48 provincials were killed in the late battle at Bunker's Hill, and 131 wounded; 30 of the latter were taken prisoners, and 6 have since died of their wounds in Boston: The prisoners that remain with the enemy (24 in number) are like to recover.

NEWPORT, *June* 26. Yesterday Capt. William Dennis arrived here in a sloop from Philadelphia, loaded with flour, &c. The vessel and cargo is taken under the *protection* of the men of war.

The men of war in our harbour have, since our last, seized on 6 or 7 vessels in a fair trade, loaded with rum, sugar, molasses, and provisions, all which, it is supposed, will be applied to the support of the enemies to American liberty.

PHILADELPHIA, *July* 11.

A CORRESPONDENT informs us that one of the Gentlemen appointed to command a company of rifle-men, to be raised in one of our frontier counties, had so many applications from the people in his neighbourhood, to be enrolled for the service, that a greater number presented than his instructions permitted him to engage, and being unwilling to give offence to any, thought of the following expedient, viz. He, with a piece of a chalk, drew on a board the figure of a nose of the common size, which he placed at the distance of one hundred and fifty yards, declaring that those who should come nearest the mark should be enlisted, when sixty odd hit the object.——[General Gage, take care of *your* nose.]

Extract of a letter from CAMBRIDGE, *July* 3, 1775.

"The greatest civility and attention was paid to the Generals on their arrival at the camp, which was on Sunday, about noon. When they were within 20 miles of the camp, they received an express, that the parliamentary troops had, on Saturday morning, about six o'clock, begun a very heavy connonading on the town of Roxbury, which continued better than two hours, without intermission, though with little or no loss on the side of the provincials, and that they expected a general attack on Sunday, about two o'clock, at the time of high water. This we had confirmed, and I believe was prevented by a heavy rain, which began at half past twelve, and continued till late at night. The Generals have spent this whole day in reviewing the troops, lines, fortifications, &c. They find the troops to be 15000 strong, and the works to be in as good order as could be expected. The regulars have been sounding the shore this afternoon, and we are in some expectation of a visit at the next high water. Our men are all in good spirits, and wish they may come out. The best account we can get of the late engagement is, that the regulars lost more than 800 in the field, and 700 wounded. Among the slain are Col. Williams, Major Pitcairn, and Major Shireff. It remains a matter of doubt whether or not General Bourgoyne is among the dead. This we are certain of, that General Howe commanded the first division of 1700, and General Bourgoyne the second of 1300, and since the battle he has not been seen in Boston; it is given out that he is gone to England. The provincials had not more than 700 in the action: The Welsh Fusileers (the best regiment in the English army) carried from the field no more than seventeen privates, and one Captain. It is also certain Gage lost 84 officers.

"TUESDAY *morning, 6 o'clock*. Four horses of Preston's regiment fell into the hands of our centries this morning, which was owing to the regulars calling in all their out centries, as they expected a general attack from the provincials, which, we suppose, was owing to our viewing all their lines yesterday evening: We went so near as to make them apprehensive we were reconnoitring, in order to find some place fit to begin an attack. The loss of the provincials, as by the return made to General Washington this morning, is 138 killed, 301 wounded, and 7 missing."

Extract of a letter from John Wilson, *of* AUGUSTA, *to Messrs.* Campbell *and* Son, *June* 15, 1775.

"All the Cherokee traders are come down but two, and have the pleasure to inform you that they have over-paid their fall cargoes. There is at present but very indifferent Talks in that nation. They have lately killed two Virginians that had gone up there express, which, am afraid, will be the cause of a war. Should that be the case, I shall be badly off, having little powder in the fort. I am informed that one of our traders was stopped by the Indians, in order to bring a Talk down."

Extract of a letter from JOHN STUART *to Mr.* CAMERON.

"I have received information from General Gage, that certain persons at the northward have been tampering with the SIX INDIAN NATIONS, and endeavouring to alienate their affections from his Majesty. I mention this to caution you against any thing of the kind with you, and that you will use your influence to dispose those people to act in defence of his Majesty and government, if found necessary."

Mr. CAMERON's *answer.*

"That Mr. Stuart's interest with the Indians was much greater, and that he was more beloved by them than any other man; and that he [Cameron] had the vanity to think that he could head any number he thought proper, whenever called upon, in support of his Majesty and government."

Cameron is Stuart's principal deputy.

WILLIAMSBURG, *July* 22.

LAST Monday the Delegates for the several counties and corporations in this colony convened at the town of Richmond.

We are desired, from good authority, to contradict a false and malicious report, propagated purposely to injure individuals in the town of Norfolk, and to draw upon them the censure and indignation of the good people in this colony, that a party is formed in that place, with intention to oppose the measures now adopted in this country. Nothing can be more false than this, or ought to gain less credit, when it is considered how vain would their weak efforts be in opposition to the power of united America. It is true their local situation will not admit at present of offensive measures, but as far as that does, they are not neglectful of military discipline, and preparations for defence, at the same time that they are forwarding the welfare of the country, equal with its most useful inhabitants, by their industry and attention to its commercial interests.

☞ We have received several certificates for publication, in defence of the characters of Mess. Mills and company, and Capt. Robinson, so unjustly censured in the last gazettes by John Parsons and his apprentices, of Gloucester. It plainly appears that Capt. Robinson brought no kind of goods in his ship from England, and we are very sorry the certificates came too late to be inserted this week; but those Gentlemen may be assured they will be in our next paper.

The "NEW SONG *on the present critical times*," *with sundry advertisements, are omitted for want of room.*

Died,----The Rev. JAMES M'CARTNEY, Rector of St. Patrick's, in Prince Edward.

*** DIXON *and* HUNTER *will give good prices for clean linen rags.*

WILLIAMSBURG, *July* 22, 1775.

WHEREAS we the SUBSCRIBERS, Executors of the Estate of *John Turner*, deceased, being duly empowered to act, have thought proper to discharge Mr. *George Reid*, who, for sixteen Months past, has had the Management of the said *Turner*'s Business, and settling the late Partnership of *Allay* and *Turner*: This is to inform the Public that *William Turner* is appointed to settle the said Estates, and that he alone is fully authorised to settle every Transaction relative thereto. All Persons indebted to the said Concern are requested to make speedy Payment, as the Debts have been long due, and their Creditors in *Britain*, and Mr. *Allan*'s Heirs, are very solicitous for Remittances.

WILLIAM PEARSON, } Ex'rs.
WILLIAM TURNER, }

WILLIAMSBURG, *July* 22, 1775.

LAST *Friday* Morning, when the Detachment was about to return to this City, from *York* Town, a BED BLANKET (in which was wrapped 4 Shirts and 6 or 7 Pair of Stockings, marked C F, with several other Articles of Clothing) was left with the rest of the Soldiers Baggage, near Mr. *Mitchell*'s, to be brought up in a Cart, but by some Means or other was neglected. Whoever will contrive it safe to Mr. *Mitchell* of *York*, or to Mr. *James Southall* of this City, shall be handsomely rewarded. 1‖

TO BE SOLD,

On THURSDAY *next, at the* CAPITOL LANDING, *by order of the Worshipful the Court of* YORK,

ALL the Estate of *Matthew Moody*, deceased, consisting of sundry valuable SLAVES, STOCKS of all Kinds, together with the HOUSEHOLD and KITCHEN FURNITURE. The Terms will be made known at the Day of Sale. (1) WILLIAM RUSSELL, D. S.

WILLIAMSBURG, *July* 22, 1775.

LONDON, *May* 11.

EVERY friend to the true interests of his country, and whose humanity is not confined to particular objects, must dread the expected news of a battle in America. In a victory over a natural enemy, if a thousand of the vanquished drop by the sword, we feel for them with only a common christian commiseration; but to read a formal "list of the killed and wounded" of our fellow subjects, effected by the caprice of a wicked Ministry, must be piercing to such who have liberal and humane sentiments.

Though the American soldiery perhaps may not be so regularly disciplined as the King's troops, yet it must be considered that there is a very material difference between a man who fights for his natural liberty, and the man who only fights because he is paid for it. The former defends himself in a just cause; the latter is the mere dupe of power: The former is animated by the zeal of his attachments to the public weal; the latter has no attachments at all, except to his PAY *for slaughter and bloodshed.*

May 12. *They write from Guernsey, that three French men of war, with upwards of* 30 *sail of vessels under convoy, passed by that island the* 4*th instant, about* 8 *o'clock in the evening, and that they were not all out of sight the next morning at day-break.*

May 15. *It is now believed that Spain will take the lead in breaking peace with Great Britain, from which France will derive two advantages; first, by shewing the necessity of fulfilling her engagements with Spain; secondly, by uniting the several discordant interests in the Court and Cabinet in one great principle, that of setting limits to the dangerous growing power of Great Britain, and interrupting and chastising her for the insolent claim of dominion they pretend she at present exercises over the whole commercial world.*

The Portuguese Minister, it is said, affects to be greatly alarmed on account of the naval armaments going on in the several ports and dockyards of Spain; but this is looked upon, by those who are well acquainted with the insidious temper of the Court of Lisbon, designed merely as a finesse to mislead Great Britain, and to betray its Ministers into a fatal security.

May 20. *The following was the amendment proposed by Lord North on Monday last, on the representation and remonstrance from New York, presented to the House by Mr. Burke.*

As soon as the act of the 6*th of George* III. *was called for, and a clause read, it was moved, after the word* remonstrance *to insert "in which the said Assembly claim to themselves rights derogatory to, and inconsistent with, the legislative authority of Parliament, as declared by the said act."*

Thursday night an express arrived with the news of the death of the Queen of Denmark, on the 11*th instant, at Zell, of a fever, aged* 23 *years and* 10 *months. She was born the* 22*d of July,* 1751.

Yesterday a petition from the Protestant inhabitants of Quebec was presented to the House of Commons by Sir George Saville. This occasioned a warm debate, in which Sir George Saville, Sir William Meredith, Lord North, Mr. Fox, Mr. Adam Drummond, Mr. Sawbridge, Mr. Turner, Col. Barre, and Mr. Burke, were speakers. At half after ten the question (which, during the course of the debates, had been frequently called for) was put, when the House divided; the numbers were, for the motion 86, *against it* 174.

May 23. *The want of corn is so great all over France, that the King has issued an edict, allowing to all vessels, as well French as foreigners, that shall arrive with foreign corn in any French ports, from the* 15*th instant to the* 1*st of August ensuing, a premium of* 18 *sols for every quintal of wheat, and* 12 *sols for every quintal of rye; and all such ships are to be exempt from paying any duty of freight, or any other sort, in any French port during the above period. The above bounty to be immediately paid by the King's officers in the respective ports in that kingdom.*

By letters from Capt. Bond, of the Charming Betsy, who was obliged to put into Guernsey by stress of weather on the 12*th instant, we learn, that when he left Lisbon, a few days before, a war with Spain was deemed inevitable, and that the Portuguese were making preparations to stand on their defence. He says their navy consists at present of only* 23 *men of war and* 3 *frigates.*

Intelligence is arrived from Paris, that the King despatched orders to all his seaports to be put in a state of defence immediately. Similar orders have been given by the Court of Spain, which puzzles our most experienced politicians greatly, they not being able even to guess at the designs of both powers.

Letters from divers parts of Spain say, that peace is absolutely upon the point of conclusion with the Moors, on account that that kingdom will be engaged in a war very soon with one of the European powers.

Col. Barre, in his speech in support of the American petition to the King, after mentioning the many calamities likely to befal this kingdom, in consequence of the system adopted for the colonies, says, *The parent heart will at length feel, the supplications of her children will be heard, and she will pour balm of pity and redress upon the wounds she has inflicted: Then too I shall hope, Sir, that your confusion will fall on those dangerous and designing men, who, by interposing themselves between the parent country and her affectionate colonies, have, for several years past, been incessantly labouring to dissolve every tie that united us, by abusing the Royal authority, misrepresenting the intentions and actions of your American fellow subjects, and prosecuting the most desperate projects of avarice and ambition. Then, Sir, it will be seen who they are, who, by false information and open provocation, by treacherous private letters, or inflammatory public speeches, have misrepresented that, and misled this country; have planted jealousy here, and passion there, till at length, by the force of accumulated injuries and violent opposition, we are almost compelled to leap the fatal precipice of a* CIVIL WAR!

Orders are given to take up some transport ships in order to carry stores and ammunition to Jamaica; likewise for two vessels to carry salt provisions for Gibraltar.

A report was current yesterday, at the west end of the town, that a new Indian war is begun with the English in the East Indies.

Sunday se'nnight an express arrived at Dublin, for four more regiments to embark for America. It may be remembered, that one chief inducement to passing the augmentation act was, that 12,000 *men should be always kept in Ireland; if then four regiments follow those which are gone already (and which are not yet replaced) there will be a great deficiency in the number to be kept there; and this, besides being a breach of royal promise, will expose that island to the insults of the Spaniards, who seem to be meditating some capital stroke.*

We are informed that Miss Hutchinson, a daughter of Governor Hutchinson, from America, is to be appointed a Maid of Honour to the Queen, in the room of the Hon. Miss Johnston, deceased.

A treaty of marriage is said to be on foot between the Hon. Mr. Hutchinson, late Lieutenant Governor of Boston, in New England, and the Right Hon. Lady Dowager Townshend, mother to the present Viscount Townshend, of Portman square.

HOUSE of LORDS, *May* 19.

The Duke of Manchester presented a paper, entitled a memorial from the House of Assembly of New York, and moved that the same might be read. A matter of order was now started, whether it would be regular to receive the said memorial, as his Grace had not heard the contents, and declined to do so farther than reading the title and the prayer, desiring the repeal of certain acts of Parliament, and praying redress. Lords Townshend, Buckingham, and Denbigh, objected to it on several other grounds, particularly to the very title Memorial, which they contended was improper, and expressive of disrespect towards the House, and a disclaiming of its legislative authority. Lord Sandwich spoke fully to the regularity and mode of proceeding, and moved an amendment, by adding, after the word "memorial," the contents whereof having not been opened. The Duke of Richmond differed as to the point of fact; for he insisted, that part at least of the contents had been opened, and moved an amendment to the last amendment, by adding the concluding words of the memorial, which had been read by the Duke of Manchester. This gave another turn to the debate, and Lord Gower insisted, as his Grace had refused, though often pressed to make known the contents, his Lordship moved another amendment to the question so amended. The debate now took entirely another turn, and a warm debate arose about the manner of getting rid of the several amendments, and coming back to the main question, that the said memorial be now read; in which the Lords Mansfield, Camden, Shelburne, Weymouth, Dudley, Dartmouth, and Marchmont, spoke. At length, after four hours and a half continual altercation, doubt, and uncertainty, the question was put on the motion, as amended by Lord Sandwich, which was carried in the negative without a division; and the question on the original motion, "that said memorial be now read," being put, there appeared

Contents	19	*Non-contents*	60
Proxies	6	*Proxies*	10

The BILL brought into the House of Lords on Wednesday last, by Lord Camden, for the repeal of the Quebec bill:

"*A* BILL *to repeal an act made in the last session of the last Parliament, entitled,* "An act for making more effectual provision for the government of the province of Quebec, in North America."

WHEREAS an act was passed in the last session of the last Parliament, entitled, "*An act for making more effectual provision for the government of the province of Quebec, in North America.*"

"*And whereas the said act, contrary to the example of all former times, and to the faith of his Majesty's proclamation issued in the year* 1763, *has established an arbitrary government in the said province.*

"*And whereas the said act, by permitting both the clergy and laity there to hold offices and benefices, without taking the oath of supremacy, and by granting to the Popish clergy in the said province the enjoyment of their accustomed dues and rights, has entirely stopped the growth and propagation of the Protestant religion, and in the room thereof has established the religion of the church of Rome in the said province for ever.*

"*And whereas the said act, by enlarging the boundaries of the said province, and making the legislature thereof co-extensive with the same, may put the Indian trade, among other things, under the sole management of that legislature, as in truth appears to be already done by the instructions lately given to Governor Carleton; by which that trade, which had before been freely carried on by all his Majesty's subjects in North America without restriction, is now to be confined to such regulations as the said legislature may think fit to impose upon it, and thereby the rights of his Majesty's other colonies are unwarrantably abridged and invaded; and by a like extension of the said legislature the said other colonies may come to be excluded from having any intercourse or correspondence whatsoever with the Indian nations of that vast continent, without the leave or permission of the said legislature, which would naturally give rise to unnatural divisions, and endless controversies, between his Majesty's subjects of the old colonies and the inhabitants of the new province of Quebec.*

"*May it therefore please your Most Excellent Majesty, that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that from and after the first day of May,* 1776, *the above-mentioned act, and the several matters and things therein contained, shall be, and is, and are, hereby repealed and made void, to all intents and purposes whatsoever.*"

This bill being read, Lord Camden acquainted the House, that he had delayed the proposed repeal until the first of May next, to the end that time might be obtained in the interval to provide a better plan of government for the province of Quebec.

CHARLESTOWN, *June* 23.

To his Excellency the Right Hon. Lord WILLIAM CAMPBELL, *Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the province of* South Carolina.

The humble ADDRESS and DECLARATION of the Provincial Congress.

May it please your Excellency,

WE his Majesty's loyal subjects, the representatives of the people of this colony, in Congress assembled, beg leave to disclose to your Excellency the true causes of our proceedings; not only that upon your arrival among us, you may receive no unfavourable impression of our conduct, but that we may stand justified to the world.

When the ordinary modes of application for redress of grievances, and the usual means of defence against arbitrary impositions have failed, mankind generally have had recourse to those that are extraordinary. Hence the origin of the Continental Congress, and hence the present representation of the people in this colony.

It is unnecessary to enumerate the grievances of America; they have been so often represented that your Excellency cannot be a stranger to them. Let it therefore suffice to say, that the hands of his Majesty's Ministers have long lain heavy, now press us with intolerable weight. We declare, that no love of innovation, no desire of altering the constitution of government, no lust of independence, has had the least influence upon our Councils: But, alarmed and roused by a long succession of arbitrary proceedings by wicked administrations, impressed with the greatest apprehensions of instigated insurrections, and deeply affected by the commencement of hostilities by the British troops against this continent, solely for the preservation and defence of our lives, liberties, and properties, we have been impelled to associate, and take up arms.

We sincerely deplore those slanderous informations and wicked counsels, by which his Majesty has been led into measures, which, if persisted in, must inevitably involve America in all the calamities of civil war, and rend the British empire. We only desire the secure enjoyment of our invaluable rights, and we wish for nothing more ardently than a speedy reconciliation with our mother country, upon constitutional principles.

Conscious of the justice of our cause, and the integrity of our views, we readily profess our loyal attachment to our Sovereign, his Crown and dignity; and, trusting the event to Providence, we prefer death to slavery.

These things we have thought it our duty to declare, that your Excellency, and, through you, our august Sovereign, our fellow subjects, and the whole world, may clearly understand, that our taking up arms is the result of dire necessity, and in compliance with the first law of nature.

We entreat, and trust, that your Excellency will make such a representation of the state of this colony, and of our true motives, as to assure his Majesty, that, in the midst of all our complicated distresses, he has no subjects in his wide dominions who more sincerely desire to testify their loyalty and affection, or who would be more willing to devote their lives and fortunes in his real service.

By order of the Provincial Congress, at Charlestown.

June 20, 1775. HENRY LAURENS, President.

The deputation being returned, the Hon. Mr. Drayton reported, that they having delivered the address to the Governor, his Excellency was pleased to make the following

ANSWER:

GENTLEMEN,

I KNOW of no representatives of the people of this province, except those constitutionally convened in General Assembly, and am incompetent to judge of the disputes which at present unhappily subsist between Great Britain and the American colonies.

It is impossible, during the short interval since my arrival, that I should have acquired such a knowledge of the state of the province as to be at present able to make any representation thereupon to his Majesty; but you may be assured that no representations shall be ever made by me, but what shall be confident with truth, and with an earnest endeavour to promote the real happiness and prosperity of the province.

WM. CAMPBELL.

June 21, 1775. Published by order of the Congress.

PETER TIMOTHY, Secretary.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

HAMPTON, *June* 20, 1775.

THE Subscriber begs Leave to inform the Public that the KING's ARMS TAVERN of this Place, formerly kept by her late Husband, *William* M'*Caa*, deceased, is still continued open by her; and, further, to assure any Gentlemen disposed to favour her with their Custom, that they may depend upon her utmost Endeavours to keep the House in the best Manner. SARAH M'CAA.

☞ Proper Accommodations will be provided for Horses, and Gentlemen may rely upon their being taken due Care of.

NORTHUMBERLAND, *June* 19, 1775.

WHEREAS, on or about the 30th of *March* last, I purchased Half of a Vessel of Mr. *Joseph Hester*, for which I paid 12*l.* 10*s.* immediately, and gave my Bond for the further Sum of 12*l.* 10*s.* payable to the said *Joseph Hester* on or before the 20th Day of *August* next; I hereby forewarn all Persons from taking any Assignment of the said Bond, as I am determined not to pay it, the Vessel not being agreeable to Bargain, &c. RICHARD NUTT.

WILLIAM & MARY College, *July* 22, 1775.

I intend to leave the Colony immediately.

1‖ JOHN LEWIS.

WANTED,

A SOBER Man, well acquainted with Book-Keeping, and the Management of a Store. Such a Person, well recommended, will meet with Encouragement by applying to the Subscriber, in *Princess Anne*.

4 ANTHONY WALKE.

TAPPAHANNOCK (Essex County) *July* 10, 1775.

I intend for *Great Britain* immediately.

‖ JAMES GORDON.

SOUTHAMPTON, *July* 3, 1775.

STOLEN out of my House, between the 20th and 28th of *March* last, one three Pint SILVER TANKARD, and one Pint CAN, marked M E, which I have the greatest Reason to believe were taken and conveyed away by a Negro Man Slave belonging to *Edmund Taylor*, Esq; of *Mecklenburg*, he being in my Neighbourhood about that Time. Whoever delivers me the said Plate, or gives me such Intelligence that I get them again, shall be handsomely rewarded by

JAMES RIDLEY.

HANOVER, *July* 6, 1775.

I INTEND to *England*, and have appointed Mr. *George Pottie* to be my Attorney during my Absence.

GEORGE BRAIKENRIDGE.

FOR CHARTER,

A NEW BRIGANTINE,

that will carry three Hundred Hogsheads, or nine Thousand Bushels, and will be ready to receive a Cargo in ten Days. For Terms apply to 4 JAMES ARCHDEACON.

NORFOLK, *July* 14, 1775.

URBANNA, *June* 26, 1775.

WENT away from the Subscriber, on the 14th instant, a well set black Fellow, commonly known by the Name of BILLY BARBER, about 30 or 32 Years of Age, and 5 Feet 8 or 9 Inches high. This Fellow is well known over most of this Colony, as he has attended several Gentlemen whose Business obliged them a good Deal from Home, particularly the late Mr. *Hugh* M'*Mekin of Portsmouth*. He has, I am told, a Wife at *Norfolk*, another at *Hampton*, and a third at this Place; it is probable he may be about the two first mentioned Places. Any Person who will deliver him to me, at *Urbanna*, shall have a Reward of 5*l.* current Money; and I hereby forewarn all Persons (particularly a certain *Lockey Collier*, near *Hampton*, whose Property he is) from harbouring or concealing the said Slave, as I will, at a future Day, most assuredly prosecute him or them to the utmost Extent of the Law.

BENNETT PROWNE.

RUN away from the Subscriber, in *King George*, near *Leeds* Town, the 24th of *June* last, a Negro Man named CHARLES, a stout, likely, well made Fellow, has had a Hurt in his left Knee some Years ago, which at Times is very sore; his left Leg is much larger than the other, and has Scars on it, by being often cut by the Doctor. Whoever secures him so that I may get him again shall have 20*s.* besides what the Law allows. JOHN WASHINGTON.

STRAYED from Capt. *Mordecai Buckner's*, in *Spotsylvania*, on *Saturday* the 1st of *July*, a large skewball MARE, 6 or 7 Years old, about 15 Hands high, paces, trots, and gallops; her Head, left Buttock, and all her Feet, are white; the other Parts of a Sorrel Colour. Whoever returns the said Mare to Mr. *James Taylor*, or to Mrs. *Rachel* M'*Williams*, in *Fredericksburg*, shall have 30*s.* Reward.

2 WILLIAM M'WILLIAMS.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

A VESSEL capable of carrying 1500 Barrels, to *Britain*. Whoever can furnish such a one will please to signify the same to Mr. *Alexander Purdie*, at his Printing Office.

To be SOLD, *at the late Dwelling-House of* Alexander Lietch, *deceased, on* Monday *the* 31*st of* July, *if fair, otherwise the next fair Day,*

ALL the personal Estate of the said Deceased, consisting chiefly of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE. Six Months Credit will be allowed for all Sums exceeding 25*s.* on giving Bond and Security.

MARGARET LIETCH, Adm.

PRINCE GEORGE, *July* 4, 1775.